

The Council is grounded in prevention and works to ensure justice by building equitable and effective opportunities for children, youth and families to thrive in Vermont.

**Children and Family Council or Prevention Programs
Meeting notes March 17, 2022, 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Teams Meeting Invite or Phone**

Members Present: Amy Davenport, Bob Sheil, Donn Hutchins, Katherine O’Day, Kreig Pinkham, Laurey Burris, Linda Johnson, Matt Wolf, Mackenzie Mazza, Mike Loner, Karen Vastine, Julia Brand
Partners Present: Elizabeth Morris, Tyler Allen, Lindy Boudreau

Vermont Afterschool’s Un bias Training for Grant Reviewers went well – two sessions happened yesterday and there is another scheduled for today.

Approval of February Meeting Notes. All yes. Passed.

CJ Conference: May 18-21, 2022. <https://www.juvjustice.org/events/conferences/cj-2022-annual-conference>

In previous years, SAG operating dollars have been used to send 5 or so council members, and then additional DCF staff and a judge. \$32,968 is currently left in SAG operating. Will the Council vote to use SAG operating dollars to send members/partners to the conference? It usually costs \$3500 to send one person. **The council authorizes expending SAG operating dollars of up to 8 people, including council members and council partners. All yes. Passed.**

People who are potentially interested:

- Laurey Burris
- Christopher Lukasik
- Kirsten Kersey
- Kreig Pinkham
- Katherine O’Day
- Elizabeth Morris
- Tyler Allen
- Karen Vastine
- Sparks
- Amy & Donn offer that other people attend instead of them

Council Officers: Job descriptions below

CFCPP Chair

- Work with the Executive Committee and JJ Specialist to create monthly Council agendas
- Act as principal facilitator of monthly Council meetings and therein foster a meeting environment that allows for fair and public discussion of Council matters
- Facilitate the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee
- Work with Committee Chairs to ensure continuance of efforts toward establishing and meeting goals as set forth within the three-year plan
- Represent the Council in discussions with outside entities as it pertains to Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention: this may carry expectations to attend and participate in other Statewide Council discussions on related issues such as general primary prevention, youth workforce labor creation, etc.
- Draft letters and other forms of communication with State Governing officials including the Legislature and relevant Department Commissioners regarding council matters and efforts toward creating a Juvenile Justice Framework in Vermont
- Work with the JJ Specialist to create and carry out the Council’s three-year plan for the utilization of Title II OJJDP funding and discuss strategies for the maintenance of the 4 Core requirements

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- Advocate for appropriate staffing within the Department for Children and Families to ensure that federally mandated monitoring of the Juvenile Justice system can occur
- Provide leadership and direction on membership recruitment, retention, and general management.
- Demonstrated ability to have and/or cultivate relationships with leadership in the relevant systems.
- Represent VT on the Coalition of Juvenile Justice's Council of SAGS
- Create ad-hoc committees as necessary
- Oversee the governance of the council and its committees in accordance with Council by-laws
- Maintain a high level of knowledge of the workings of the Juvenile Justice system both Federally and in the State of Vermont

CFCPP Vice Chair:

- Be prepared to step in for the Chair if unavailable, to lead/facilitate meetings, and represent the chair in other venues related to the CFCPP.
- Serve as a sounding Board and support the work of the Juvenile Justice Coordinator
- Attend all CFCPP Committee meetings as an ex officio member. Support coordination efforts between CFCPP Committees; watch for linkages and provide a strategic/enterprise overview.
- Support the development and Implementation of the CFCPP Strategic Plan
- Member of the Executive Committee. Involvement in agenda setting is key to "backup" role of the vice chair.
- Be willing to provide the time necessary to successfully perform the Vice Chair role.
- Perform other responsibilities as needed.

CFCPP Secretary Treasurer:

- Serve as a sounding Board and support the work of the Juvenile Justice Coordinator
- Assure that CFCPP meeting minutes are taken in the absence or recusal of the Juvenile Justice Coordinator.
- Monitor quorum for meetings and votes
- Review CFCPP Meeting minutes with juvenile Justice Coordinator prior to approval by the CFCPP
- Work with the juvenile justice coordinator to understand CFCPP financial issues and insure regular reporting of CFCPP financials to the CFCPP.
- Work with Juvenile Justice Coordinator to have a good understanding of the future cash flows coming to the CFCPP
- Work with the Juvenile Justice coordinator to have a good understanding of CFCPP budgets, future financial projections and related issues
- Member of the Executive Committee
- Be willing to provide the time necessary to successfully perform the Secretary Treasurer role.
- Perform other responsibilities as needed

Upcoming officer elections in April

If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else for one of the officer roles, please email Elizabeth.

Currently, the by-laws states that committees elect their own chair, there are some that don't think that makes sense. ERD's charter states that the committee will elect its own chair – with the chair being an appointed member, and the vice chair not being an appointed member. It would be concerning if the Council decided to override that and change their process.

Youth Services Committee Update:

- We believe that youth drop-in centers are key to ensuring that youth are engaged and empowered in their community (this is in the three-year plan.), so they continued to work on their youth drop-in survey.
- [CFCPP: VT Drop-In Center Support Survey \(cognitofirms.com\)](https://cognitofirms.com)

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- Continued to discuss putting together a school-related conference, not with the intent to put out JJDP funds for schools, but instead to share best practices on the below objectives. Amy and Karen put on the VLS conference with the systems improvement committee, and can advise on best practices.
 - i. Encourage the development of efforts to reduce truancy.
 - ii. Encourage schools to develop alternatives to school detention and suspension and evidence-based prevention and/or intervention programs.
 - iii. Reduce school suspensions for youth in Vermont.
 - iv. Ensure that Police involvement in Vermont Schools is minimal.
 - v. Encourage schools to develop programs that involve social workers, school counselors, home-school coordinators and other social-emotional practitioners whenever possible instead of law enforcement.

ERD Committee:

- ERD's regularly scheduled meeting conflicted with the Unbias training, so the committee decided to cancel their March meeting and encourage all to participate in the training.

Systems Improvement Committee:

- Discussed updates from the Bennington College report on existing DV programming. Some highlights:
 - Group work is potentially unhelpful for younger offenders but may hold some promise for more mature offenders, although most of us also realize the limited success of these programs as well. In addition, in a rural state like Vermont, finding enough youthful offenders to build a group might not be viable and it is questionable whether online group services would have a positive impact.
 - They were under the impression that we did not want victims involved in the process at all – that is incorrect, and the committee informed them of such.
 - They are most interested, based on the literature, in a model similar that would develop a circle of support for moderate risk offenders and those returning from residential treatment. This group of community members would help the youth with practical matters, provide mentoring and support while they are receiving services and for some time afterwards.
- Discussed updates from the Burlington CJC on their LE training.
 - They extended their grant with us to end with the calendar year 2022, instead of the federal fiscal year.
 - In their first quarter, they contracted with a project facilitator, formed the Training Design Team, established the Team's restorative framework, approach, did an initial identification of training principles, content, and learning-based achievements, and prepared an online Learning Needs Assessment Survey for law enforcement that gauges interest and priorities.

Juvenile Justice in Vermont Overview: Amy Davenport & Lindy Boudreau

This portion of meeting was recorded for the purposes of training future members. Please find the recording the Council's webpage below:

[Member Resources | Department for Children and Families \(vermont.gov\)](#)